

## Watts Remy

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**From:** Jeanne Roy <jeanne@earthleaders.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2019 2:07 PM  
**To:** SENR Exhibits  
**Subject:** HB 2883

To: Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
From: Jeanne Roy, Co-Director, Earth Leadership Center, 319 SW Washington, Ste 400, Portland, OR 97204  
Date: May 17, 2019  
Subject: HB 2883

As a person who has been involved in single-use plastics reduction since the 1980s, I am very much in favor of HB 2883, which prohibits food vendors from using polystyrene containers for prepared food. Below are some of the reasons:

- The City of Portland has had a polystyrene foam ban since 1990, and it has been very successful.
- Polystyrene foam is the worst form of litter because it breaks into small pieces and cannot be gathered up.
- Single-use plastics have proliferated at an enormous pace and are ending up in the oceans where they break into fragments.
- The fragments also wash up onto Oregon's beaches. The non-profit Sea Turtles Forever, which attempts to remove microplastics from sand, says that the amount of plastics washing up on our beaches is increasing every year.
- Plastic fragments are ingested by wildlife and many times cause starvation because they remain in the gut.
- Styrene is a toxic substance and "probably carcinogenic."
- Polystyrene food containers are essentially not recycled. They are generally used by mobile people who will not take them home, wash them, and transport them to the one facility in Tigard.